

TABLE 3-4

Employed college graduates, by sex, major occupation, job satisfaction, and years since highest degree: 2019

(Number)

Sex, occupation, and job satisfaction	Total	Years since highest degree							
		< 5	5–9	10–14	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	≥ 35
All sexes	50,524,000	8,140,000	9,892,000	7,347,000	5,795,000	5,182,000	4,408,000	3,752,000	6,008,000
Very satisfied	22,664,000	3,193,000	3,867,000	3,043,000	2,788,000	2,348,000	2,102,000	1,960,000	3,364,000
Somewhat satisfied	22,697,000	3,902,000	4,761,000	3,470,000	2,507,000	2,369,000	1,904,000	1,525,000	2,258,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	3,910,000	834,000	948,000	580,000	402,000	352,000	287,000	197,000	311,000
Very dissatisfied	1,253,000	212,000	316,000	255,000	98,000	113,000	115,000	69,000	75,000
S&E occupations	7,466,000	1,463,000	1,570,000	1,097,000	865,000	778,000	610,000	499,000	584,000
Very satisfied	3,385,000	619,000	675,000	473,000	419,000	349,000	290,000	244,000	315,000
Somewhat satisfied	3,405,000	672,000	722,000	530,000	373,000	376,000	277,000	215,000	240,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	556,000	142,000	141,000	79,000	60,000	42,000	35,000	33,000	24,000
Very dissatisfied	119,000	30,000	31,000	14,000	13,000	11,000	8,000	7,000	4,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	698,000	171,000	177,000	82,000	72,000	66,000	39,000	38,000	53,000
Very satisfied	312,000	75,000	64,000	36,000	36,000	28,000	22,000	19,000	32,000
Somewhat satisfied	313,000	76,000	84,000	40,000	28,000	33,000	14,000	15,000	21,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	58,000	16,000	22,000	6,000	5,000	5,000	2,000	2,000	*
Very dissatisfied	16,000	4,000	6,000	*	D	*	D	S	D
Computer and mathematical scientists	3,774,000	645,000	767,000	613,000	486,000	435,000	334,000	256,000	239,000
Very satisfied	1,655,000	281,000	332,000	261,000	226,000	189,000	141,000	112,000	113,000
Somewhat satisfied	1,764,000	277,000	350,000	292,000	220,000	217,000	168,000	123,000	117,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	299,000	77,000	70,000	52,000	34,000	21,000	20,000	18,000	7,000
Very dissatisfied	57,000	11,000	15,000	8,000	6,000	7,000	5,000	S	S
Physical and related scientists	409,000	112,000	81,000	53,000	38,000	34,000	27,000	27,000	38,000
Very satisfied	180,000	31,000	34,000	23,000	19,000	15,000	17,000	15,000	25,000
Somewhat satisfied	188,000	69,000	33,000	26,000	14,000	16,000	9,000	9,000	12,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	32,000	10,000	11,000	2,000	3,000	3,000	1,000	S	1,000
Very dissatisfied	9,000	S	S	S	D	D	D	D	D
Social and related scientists	663,000	176,000	142,000	93,000	78,000	58,000	37,000	32,000	47,000
Very satisfied	353,000	75,000	68,000	50,000	49,000	36,000	23,000	22,000	30,000
Somewhat satisfied	263,000	85,000	61,000	39,000	23,000	18,000	13,000	9,000	14,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	41,000	14,000	12,000	3,000	5,000	3,000	2,000	S	S
Very dissatisfied	6,000	S	1,000	S	D	D	D	D	D
Engineers	1,921,000	359,000	404,000	256,000	192,000	185,000	173,000	146,000	207,000
Very satisfied	886,000	157,000	177,000	104,000	88,000	80,000	88,000	76,000	115,000
Somewhat satisfied	878,000	166,000	193,000	132,000	88,000	92,000	72,000	58,000	76,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	126,000	26,000	27,000	17,000	14,000	10,000	10,000	9,000	13,000
Very dissatisfied	32,000	11,000	6,000	S	S	3,000	S	2,000	S
S&E-related occupations	8,893,000	1,726,000	1,855,000	1,280,000	976,000	875,000	683,000	561,000	936,000
Very satisfied	4,254,000	773,000	860,000	525,000	488,000	391,000	370,000	314,000	533,000
Somewhat satisfied	3,815,000	783,000	801,000	609,000	406,000	409,000	261,000	210,000	336,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	649,000	132,000	151,000	113,000	69,000	57,000	33,000	31,000	62,000
Very dissatisfied	176,000	38,000	44,000	34,000	14,000	17,000	19,000	6,000	S
Non-S&E occupations	34,165,000	4,951,000	6,467,000	4,970,000	3,953,000	3,529,000	3,115,000	2,691,000	4,488,000
Very satisfied	15,025,000	1,801,000	2,332,000	2,044,000	1,881,000	1,608,000	1,441,000	1,401,000	2,516,000
Somewhat satisfied	15,476,000	2,446,000	3,238,000	2,331,000	1,728,000	1,584,000	1,366,000	1,101,000	1,681,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	2,705,000	560,000	655,000	388,000	272,000	253,000	219,000	133,000	224,000
Very dissatisfied	958,000	145,000	241,000	206,000	71,000	85,000	88,000	56,000	66,000
Female	26,341,000	4,749,000	5,611,000	4,000,000	2,992,000	2,690,000	2,088,000	1,710,000	2,502,000
Very satisfied	11,532,000	1,780,000	2,268,000	1,624,000	1,414,000	1,181,000	1,016,000	890,000	1,359,000

TABLE 3-4

Employed college graduates, by sex, major occupation, job satisfaction, and years since highest degree: 2019

(Number)

Sex, occupation, and job satisfaction	Total	Years since highest degree							
		< 5	5–9	10–14	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	≥ 35
Somewhat satisfied	12,152,000	2,384,000	2,693,000	1,917,000	1,350,000	1,238,000	895,000	715,000	961,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	1,948,000	471,000	470,000	304,000	161,000	199,000	120,000	83,000	141,000
Very dissatisfied	709,000	114,000	180,000	155,000	66,000	73,000	58,000	23,000	42,000
S&E occupations	2,193,000	499,000	493,000	329,000	251,000	215,000	166,000	128,000	112,000
Very satisfied	966,000	205,000	199,000	151,000	120,000	87,000	87,000	59,000	60,000
Somewhat satisfied	1,021,000	240,000	237,000	152,000	107,000	110,000	69,000	59,000	46,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	167,000	44,000	48,000	22,000	18,000	13,000	9,000	8,000	6,000
Very dissatisfied	38,000	11,000	9,000	5,000	6,000	S	S	S	*
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	337,000	77,000	89,000	44,000	38,000	37,000	16,000	16,000	21,000
Very satisfied	160,000	38,000	39,000	20,000	21,000	16,000	10,000	9,000	8,000
Somewhat satisfied	145,000	29,000	40,000	21,000	13,000	19,000	4,000	6,000	13,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	25,000	8,000	8,000	2,000	2,000	S	2,000	*	D
Very dissatisfied	7,000	S	S	*	D	*	D	D	D
Computer and mathematical scientists	975,000	174,000	189,000	153,000	120,000	104,000	106,000	76,000	54,000
Very satisfied	392,000	62,000	70,000	68,000	46,000	35,000	55,000	28,000	29,000
Somewhat satisfied	483,000	88,000	98,000	69,000	61,000	59,000	44,000	41,000	22,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	84,000	20,000	19,000	13,000	10,000	7,000	6,000	S	S
Very dissatisfied	16,000	4,000	3,000	S	D	D	D	D	D
Physical and related scientists	142,000	45,000	38,000	19,000	12,000	12,000	6,000	5,000	6,000
Very satisfied	57,000	14,000	15,000	6,000	5,000	6,000	3,000	3,000	5,000
Somewhat satisfied	70,000	28,000	15,000	12,000	5,000	5,000	2,000	2,000	1,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	11,000	2,000	6,000	1,000	S	S	D	D	D
Very dissatisfied	4,000	S	S	*	D	D	D	D	D
Social and related scientists	428,000	124,000	99,000	66,000	53,000	35,000	20,000	13,000	18,000
Very satisfied	214,000	51,000	40,000	38,000	35,000	21,000	9,000	9,000	11,000
Somewhat satisfied	179,000	61,000	49,000	25,000	13,000	13,000	10,000	3,000	5,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	31,000	10,000	S	3,000	4,000	S	D	D	D
Very dissatisfied	5,000	S	1,000	D	D	D	D	D	D
Engineers	310,000	80,000	77,000	47,000	28,000	27,000	19,000	18,000	13,000
Very satisfied	144,000	40,000	34,000	18,000	13,000	10,000	10,000	11,000	7,000
Somewhat satisfied	143,000	34,000	35,000	25,000	14,000	15,000	9,000	7,000	5,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	16,000	3,000	6,000	4,000	1,000	1,000	D	D	D
Very dissatisfied	6,000	3,000	S	D	D	D	D	D	D
S&E-related occupations	5,109,000	1,134,000	1,169,000	771,000	508,000	466,000	327,000	293,000	440,000
Very satisfied	2,435,000	498,000	543,000	323,000	259,000	225,000	172,000	175,000	241,000
Somewhat satisfied	2,224,000	534,000	522,000	358,000	216,000	193,000	132,000	106,000	163,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	335,000	80,000	70,000	68,000	24,000	34,000	16,000	9,000	33,000
Very dissatisfied	114,000	21,000	34,000	21,000	9,000	15,000	7,000	S	D
Non-S&E occupations	19,040,000	3,116,000	3,949,000	2,900,000	2,233,000	2,009,000	1,595,000	1,289,000	1,949,000
Very satisfied	8,130,000	1,077,000	1,526,000	1,151,000	1,036,000	869,000	757,000	657,000	1,058,000
Somewhat satisfied	8,907,000	1,609,000	1,934,000	1,407,000	1,027,000	934,000	693,000	550,000	752,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	1,446,000	347,000	352,000	214,000	120,000	152,000	94,000	66,000	102,000
Very dissatisfied	557,000	82,000	137,000	129,000	51,000	54,000	51,000	16,000	38,000
Male	24,183,000	3,392,000	4,281,000	3,347,000	2,803,000	2,492,000	2,320,000	2,042,000	3,506,000
Very satisfied	11,132,000	1,413,000	1,600,000	1,418,000	1,374,000	1,167,000	1,086,000	1,070,000	2,005,000
Somewhat satisfied	10,545,000	1,518,000	2,068,000	1,553,000	1,157,000	1,132,000	1,010,000	811,000	1,297,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	1,962,000	363,000	478,000	276,000	241,000	153,000	167,000	115,000	170,000

TABLE 3-4

Employed college graduates, by sex, major occupation, job satisfaction, and years since highest degree: 2019

(Number)

Sex, occupation, and job satisfaction	Total	Years since highest degree							
		< 5	5–9	10–14	15–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	≥ 35
Very dissatisfied	544,000	98,000	136,000	100,000	32,000	41,000	58,000	46,000	34,000
S&E occupations	5,274,000	964,000	1,077,000	768,000	614,000	564,000	444,000	371,000	471,000
Very satisfied	2,419,000	414,000	477,000	323,000	299,000	261,000	204,000	186,000	255,000
Somewhat satisfied	2,384,000	433,000	485,000	379,000	265,000	266,000	207,000	156,000	194,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	389,000	99,000	94,000	57,000	43,000	29,000	25,000	25,000	18,000
Very dissatisfied	81,000	19,000	22,000	9,000	7,000	7,000	8,000	5,000	4,000
Biological, agricultural, and other life scientists	361,000	94,000	89,000	38,000	33,000	29,000	23,000	22,000	32,000
Very satisfied	153,000	37,000	25,000	16,000	16,000	12,000	12,000	10,000	24,000
Somewhat satisfied	167,000	47,000	44,000	19,000	15,000	14,000	10,000	10,000	8,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	32,000	7,000	14,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	S	2,000	D
Very dissatisfied	8,000	2,000	S	D	D	D	D	*	D
Computer and mathematical scientists	2,799,000	471,000	577,000	460,000	366,000	331,000	228,000	180,000	184,000
Very satisfied	1,263,000	218,000	262,000	193,000	180,000	154,000	86,000	85,000	83,000
Somewhat satisfied	1,280,000	189,000	252,000	223,000	158,000	158,000	124,000	82,000	95,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	215,000	57,000	51,000	39,000	24,000	14,000	14,000	12,000	4,000
Very dissatisfied	41,000	S	12,000	5,000	4,000	S	5,000	S	D
Physical and related scientists	267,000	67,000	42,000	34,000	26,000	22,000	22,000	22,000	32,000
Very satisfied	123,000	17,000	19,000	17,000	14,000	9,000	14,000	12,000	20,000
Somewhat satisfied	118,000	41,000	18,000	15,000	9,000	11,000	7,000	7,000	11,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	21,000	8,000	5,000	S	2,000	S	1,000	S	*
Very dissatisfied	5,000	D	S	S	D	D	D	D	D
Social and related scientists	235,000	52,000	42,000	27,000	26,000	23,000	17,000	19,000	29,000
Very satisfied	139,000	24,000	27,000	12,000	14,000	16,000	13,000	13,000	19,000
Somewhat satisfied	84,000	24,000	12,000	15,000	10,000	5,000	3,000	6,000	9,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	11,000	4,000	3,000	*	*	D	D	D	D
Very dissatisfied	S	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
Engineers	1,612,000	279,000	327,000	209,000	164,000	158,000	155,000	128,000	193,000
Very satisfied	742,000	117,000	143,000	86,000	75,000	70,000	78,000	66,000	108,000
Somewhat satisfied	734,000	132,000	159,000	107,000	73,000	77,000	64,000	51,000	71,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	110,000	22,000	21,000	13,000	13,000	9,000	10,000	9,000	13,000
Very dissatisfied	25,000	8,000	4,000	S	S	2,000	S	2,000	S
S&E-related occupations	3,785,000	592,000	687,000	510,000	469,000	408,000	356,000	268,000	495,000
Very satisfied	1,818,000	275,000	317,000	202,000	228,000	166,000	198,000	140,000	292,000
Somewhat satisfied	1,591,000	249,000	278,000	250,000	190,000	216,000	129,000	104,000	173,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	314,000	51,000	81,000	45,000	46,000	23,000	17,000	22,000	29,000
Very dissatisfied	62,000	17,000	10,000	13,000	4,000	2,000	12,000	S	1,000
Non-S&E occupations	15,125,000	1,836,000	2,518,000	2,070,000	1,720,000	1,520,000	1,520,000	1,402,000	2,539,000
Very satisfied	6,895,000	724,000	806,000	894,000	846,000	739,000	684,000	745,000	1,458,000
Somewhat satisfied	6,570,000	837,000	1,305,000	925,000	701,000	649,000	673,000	551,000	929,000
Somewhat dissatisfied	1,259,000	213,000	303,000	174,000	152,000	101,000	125,000	68,000	123,000
Very dissatisfied	401,000	62,000	104,000	78,000	21,000	31,000	38,000	39,000	29,000

* = suppressed when population estimate < 500. D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information. S = suppressed for reliability; coefficient of variation exceeds publication standards.

S&E = science and engineering.

Note(s):

Numbers are rounded to the nearest 1,000. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

Source(s):

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Survey of College Graduates: 2019.